

In the United States Patent and Trademark Office

Mailed 199- APRIL 3, 2000

Box Patent Application  
Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, District of Columbia 20231

Sir:

Please file the following enclosed patent application papers:

Applicant #1, Name: ALAN BALKANY

Applicant #2, Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: HIERARCHICAL METHOD FOR STORING DATA WITH

☒ Specification, Claims, and Abstract: Nr. of Sheets 21

☒ Declaration: Date Signed: 4-3-2000

☒ Drawing(s): Nr. of Sheets Enc.: Formal: 10 Informal: \_\_\_\_\_

☒ Small Entity Declaration of Inventor(s) ☐ SED of Non-Inventor / Assignee / Licensee

☐ Assignment enclosed with cover sheet and recordal fee; please record and return.

☒ Check for \$ 180 for:

☒ \$ 155 for filing fee (not more than three independent claims and twenty total claims are presented).

☐ \$ \_\_\_\_\_ additional if Assignment is enclosed for recordal.

☒ Information Disclosure Statement, Form PTO-1449, and listed references.

☒ Disclosure Document Program reference letter.

☐ Pursuant to 35 U.S.C. §119(e)(i), applicant(s) claim priority of Provisional Patent Application Ser. Nr. \_\_\_\_\_  
filed \_\_\_\_\_

☒ Return Receipt Postcard Addressed to Applicant #1.

☒ **Request Under MPEP § 707.07(j):** The undersigned, a pro se applicant, respectfully requests that if the Examiner finds patentable subject matter disclosed in this application, but feels that Applicant's present claims are not entirely suitable, the Examiner draft one or more allowable claims for applicant.

Very respectfully,

Applicant #1 Signature

Applicant #2 Signature

Address (Send Correspondence Here)

Address

Express Mail Label #

(EK651218286US)

; Date of Deposit-199

APRIL 3, 2000

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Box Patent Application  
Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, District of Columbia 20231

Fee Transmittal

First-Named Applicant ALAN BALKANY  
Title of Invention: "HIERARCHICAL METHOD FOR STORING DATA WITH IMPROVED COMPRESSION"  
Total Payment Enclosed (From Calculation Below): \$ 180 ☒ Check ☐ Money Order

Sir:

Enclosed is the following small entity filing fee for the above patent application:

Fee Code	Fee Description	Fee (\$)
214	Provisional Pat. Appn. Filing Fee	
201	Basic Utility Appn. Filing Fee	
206	Basic Design Appn. Filing Fee	<u>155</u>
	Subtotal (1)	<u>155</u>
203	Total Claims: <u>10</u> - 20 = <u>-10</u> ; X _____ (fee for each claim over 20) = _____	
202	Tot. Indep. Claims <u>2</u> - 3 = <u>-1</u> ; X _____ (fee for each indep. claim over 3) = _____	
	Subtotal (2)	
Total Payment Enclosed (Sum of Subtotals (1) and (2))		<u>\$180</u>

Very respectfully,

Alan Balkany  
Signature of First-Named Applicant

ALAN BALKANY  
Print Name of First-Named Applicant

418 LARKSPUR  
Address  
ANN ARBOR, MI 48105-1125

In the United States Patent and Trademark Office

First/Sole Applicant: ALAN BALKANY

Joint/Second Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: "HIERARCHICAL METHOD FOR STORING DATA WITH IMPROVED COMPRESSION"

Small Entity Declaration—Independent Inventor(s)

As a below-named inventor, I hereby declare that I qualify as an independent inventor as defined in 37 CFR 1.9(c) for purposes of paying reduced fees under Section 41(a) and (b) of Title 35 United States Code, to the Patent and Trademark Office with regard to my above-identified invention described in the specification filed herewith. I have not assigned, granted, conveyed, or licensed—and am under no obligation under any contract or law to assign, grant, convey, or license—any rights in the invention to either (a) any person who could not be classified as an independent inventor under 37 CFR 1.9(c) if that person had made the invention, or (b) any concern which would not qualify as either (i) a small business concern under 37 CFR 1.9(d) or (ii) a nonprofit organization under 37 CFR 1.9(e).

Each person, concern, or organization to which I have assigned, granted, conveyed, or licensed—or am under an obligation under contract or law to assign, grant, convey, or license—any rights in the invention is listed below:

☒ There is no such person, concern, or organization.

☐ Any applicable person, concern, or organization is listed below:

Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

I acknowledge a duty to file, in the above application for patent, notification of any change in status resulting in loss of entitlement to small entity status prior to paying, or at the time of paying, the earliest of the issue fee or any maintenance fee due after the date on which status as a small entity is no longer appropriate (37 CFR 1.28(b)).

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application, any patent issuing thereon, or any patent to which this verified statement is directed.

Alan Balkany  
Signature of Sole/First Inventor

ALAN BALKANY  
Print Name of Sole/First Inventor

APRIL 3, 2003  
Date of Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Joint/Second Inventor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name of Joint/Second Inventor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Signature

\*Note: A separate Small Entity Statement is required from any listed entity.